

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1078

To establish the Harriet Tubman National Historical Park in Auburn, New York, and the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park in Caroline, Dorchester, and Talbot Counties, Maryland, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 13, 2009

Mr. ARCURI (for himself, Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland, Mr. KRATOVIL, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. BACA, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. CAPUANO, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. CLAY, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HOYER, Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts, Mr. MASSA, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Mr. NADLER of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. REYES, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SHULER, Mr. SIRES, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. WATT, and Mr. WAXMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To establish the Harriet Tubman National Historical Park in Auburn, New York, and the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park in Caroline, Dorchester, and Talbot Counties, Maryland, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Harriet Tubman Na-  
5       tional Historical Park and Harriet Tubman Underground  
6       Railroad National Historical Park Act”.

7       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSES.**

8       (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

9               (1) Harriet Tubman (born Araminta “Minty”  
10       Ross)—

11               (A) was born into slavery in Maryland  
12       around 1822;

13               (B) married John Tubman at age 25;

14               (C) endured through her youth and young  
15       adulthood the hardships of enslaved African-  
16       Americans; and

17               (D) boldly emancipated herself from bond-  
18       age in 1849;

19               (2) not satisfied with attaining her own free-  
20       dom, Harriet Tubman—

21               (A) returned repeatedly for more than 10  
22       years to the places of her enslavement in Dor-  
23       chester and Caroline Counties, Maryland; and

24               (B) under the most adverse circumstances  
25       led away many family members and acquaint-

1           ances to freedom in the northern region of the  
2           United States and Canada;

3           (3) Harriet Tubman was—

4                 (A) called “Moses” by African-Americans  
5           and white abolitionists; and

6                 (B) acknowledged as one of the most  
7           prominent “conductors” of the resistance that  
8           came to be known as the “Underground Rail-  
9           road”;

10           (4) in 1868, Frederick Douglass wrote that,  
11           with the exception of John Brown, Douglass knew of  
12           “no one who has willingly encountered more perils  
13           and hardships to serve our enslaved people” than  
14           Harriet Tubman;

15           (5) during the Civil War, Harriet Tubman—

16                 (A) was recruited to assist Union troops as  
17           a nurse, a scout, and a spy; and

18                 (B) served in Virginia, Florida, and South  
19           Carolina, where she is credited with facilitating  
20           the rescue of hundreds of enslaved people;

21           (6) Harriet Tubman established in Auburn,  
22           New York, one of the first incorporated homes for  
23           aged African-Americans in the United States, which,  
24           10 years before her death, she bequeathed to the Af-  
25           rican Methodist Episcopal Zion Church;

1           (7) there are nationally significant resources  
2       comprised of relatively unchanged landscapes associ-  
3       ated with the early life of Harriet Tubman in Caro-  
4       line, Dorchester, and Talbot Counties, Maryland;

5           (8) there are nationally significant resources re-  
6       lating to Harriet Tubman in Auburn, New York, in-  
7       cluding—

8                 (A) the residence of Harriet Tubman;

9                 (B) the Tubman Home for the Aged;

10                (C) the Thompson Memorial AME Zion  
11       Church; and

12                (D) the final resting place of Harriet Tub-  
13       man in Fort Hill Cemetery;

14           (9) in developing interpretive programs, the Na-  
15       tional Park Service would benefit from increased  
16       scholarship of the African-American experience dur-  
17       ing the decades preceding the Civil War and  
18       throughout the remainder of the 19th century;

19           (10) it is fitting and proper that the nationally  
20       significant resources relating to Harriet Tubman be  
21       preserved for future generations as units of the Na-  
22       tional Park System so that people may understand  
23       and appreciate the contributions of Harriet Tubman  
24       to the history and culture of the United States; and

1           (11) in addition to the properties and resources  
2       within the boundary of the Harriet Tubman Under-  
3       ground Railroad National Historical Park, other as-  
4       sociated preserved landscapes (including the  
5       Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge) are essential  
6       to the visual, historical, and cultural experiences of  
7       the Historical Park.

8       (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

9           (1) to preserve and promote stewardship of the  
10      resources in Auburn, New York, and Caroline, Dor-  
11      chester, and Talbot Counties, Maryland, relating to  
12      the life and contributions of Harriet Tubman;

13          (2) to provide for partnerships with the African  
14      Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, the States of New  
15      York and Maryland, political subdivisions of the  
16      States, the Federal Government, local governments,  
17      nonprofit organizations, and private property owners  
18      for resource protection, research, interpretation, edu-  
19      cation, and public understanding and appreciation of  
20      the life and contributions of Harriet Tubman;

21          (3) to sustain agricultural and forestry land  
22      uses in Caroline, Dorchester, and Talbot Counties,  
23      Maryland, that remain evocative of the landscape  
24      during the life of Harriet Tubman; and

1           (4) to establish a competitive grants program  
2           for scholars of African-American history relating to  
3           Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad.

4 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

5           In this Act:

6           (1) CHURCH.—The term “Church” means the  
7           Thompson Memorial AME Zion Church located in  
8           Auburn, New York.

9           (2) HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE OR UNI-  
10          VERSITY.—The term “historically Black college or  
11          university” has the meaning given the term “part B  
12          institution” in section 322 of the Higher Education  
13          Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061).

14          (3) PREDOMINANTLY BLACK INSTITUTION.—  
15          The term “Predominantly Black Institution” has the  
16          meaning given the term in section 499A(c) of the  
17          Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
18          1099e(c)).

19          (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
20          the Secretary of the Interior.

21          (5) VISITOR CENTER.—The term “Visitor Cen-  
22          ter” means the Harriet Tubman Underground Rail-  
23          road State Park Visitor Center to be constructed  
24          under section 5(d).

1 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF HARRIET TUBMAN NATIONAL**  
2 **HISTORICAL PARK.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—On the execution of ease-  
4 ments with the Church, the Secretary shall—

5 (1) establish the Harriet Tubman National His-  
6 torical Park (referred to in this section as the “His-  
7 torical Park”) in the City of Auburn, New York, as  
8 a unit of the National Park System; and

9 (2) publish notice of the establishment of the  
10 Historical Park in the Federal Register.

11 (b) BOUNDARY.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Historical Park shall be  
13 comprised of structures and properties associated  
14 with the Harriet Tubman home, the Tubman Home  
15 for the Aged, the Church, and the Rectory, as gen-  
16 erally depicted on the map entitled “Harriet Tub-  
17 man National Historical Park—Proposed Bound-  
18 ary”, numbered \_\_\_\_\_, and dated \_\_\_\_\_.

19 (2) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map described  
20 in paragraph (1) shall be available for public inspec-  
21 tion in the appropriate offices of the National Park  
22 Service.

23 (c) ACQUISITION OF LAND.—The Secretary may ac-  
24 quire from willing sellers, by donation, purchase with do-  
25 nated or appropriated funds, or exchange, land or inter-  
26 ests in land within the boundary of the Historical Park.

1 (d) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may  
2 provide grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements  
3 with—

4 (1) the Church for—

5 (A) historic preservation of, rehabilitation  
6 of, research on, and maintenance of properties  
7 within the boundary of the Historical Park; and

8 (B) interpretation of the Historical Park;

9 (2) the Fort Hill Cemetery Association for  
10 maintenance and interpretation of the gravesite of  
11 Harriet Tubman; and

12 (3) the State of New York, any political sub-  
13 divisions of the State, the City of Auburn, and non-  
14 profit organizations for—

15 (A) preservation and interpretation of re-  
16 sources relating to Harriet Tubman in the City  
17 of Auburn, New York;

18 (B) conducting research, including archae-  
19 ological research; and

20 (C) providing for stewardship programs,  
21 education, public access, signage, and other in-  
22 terpretive devices at the Historical Park for in-  
23 terpretive purposes.

24 (e) INTERPRETATION.—The Secretary may provide  
25 interpretive tours to sites located outside the boundaries



1 of the Historical Park in Auburn, New York, that include  
 2 resources relating to Harriet Tubman.

3 (f) GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after  
 5 the date on which funds are made available to carry  
 6 out this subsection, the Secretary, in cooperation  
 7 with the Church, shall complete a general manage-  
 8 ment plan for the Historical Park in accordance  
 9 with section 12(b) of Public Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C.  
 10 1a–7(b)).

11 (2) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall co-  
 12 ordinate the preparation and implementation of the  
 13 general management plan for the Harriet Tubman  
 14 National Historical Park with—

15 (A) the Harriet Tubman Underground  
 16 Railroad National Historical Park in Maryland;  
 17 and

18 (B) the National Underground Railroad:  
 19 Network to Freedom.

20 **SEC. 5. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HARRIET TUBMAN UN-**  
 21 **DERGROUND RAILROAD NATIONAL HISTOR-**  
 22 **ICAL PARK.**

23 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established as a unit  
 24 of the National Park System the Harriet Tubman Under-  
 25 ground Railroad National Historical Park (referred to in

1 this section as the “Historical Park”) in Caroline, Dor-  
2 chester, and Talbot Counties, Maryland.

3 (b) BOUNDARY.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The boundary of the Histor-  
5 ical Park shall consist of certain landscapes and as-  
6 sociated resources relating to the early life and en-  
7 slavement of Harriet Tubman and the Underground  
8 Railroad, as generally depicted on the map entitled  
9 “Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National  
10 Historical Park—Proposed Boundary”, numbered  
11 \_\_\_\_\_, and dated \_\_\_\_\_.

12 (2) ADDITIONAL SITES.—The Secretary, after  
13 consultation with landowners, the State of Maryland,  
14 and units of local government, may modify the  
15 boundary of the Historical Park to include addi-  
16 tional resources relating to Harriet Tubman that—

17 (A) are located within the vicinity of the  
18 Historical Park; and

19 (B) are identified in the general manage-  
20 ment plan prepared under subsection (g) as ap-  
21 propriate for interpreting the life of Harriet  
22 Tubman.

23 (3) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—On modification of  
24 the boundary of the Historical Park under para-  
25 graph (2), the Secretary shall make available for

1 public inspection in the appropriate offices of the  
2 National Park Service a revised map of the Historical  
3 Park.

4 (c) ACQUISITION OF LAND.—The Secretary may acquire from willing sellers, by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange, land or an interest in land within the boundaries of the Historical  
8 Park.

9 (d) GRANTS.—In accordance with section 7(b)(2), the  
10 Secretary may provide grants—

11 (1) to the State of Maryland, political subdivisions of the State, and nonprofit organizations for the acquisition of less than fee title (including easements) or fee title to land in Caroline, Dorchester, and Talbot Counties, Maryland, within the boundary of the Historical Park; and

17 (2) on execution of a memorandum of understanding between the State of Maryland and the Director of the National Park Service, to the State of Maryland for the construction of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad State Park Visitor Center on land owned by the State of Maryland in Dorchester County, Maryland, subject to the condition that the State of Maryland provide the Director of the National Park Service, at no additional cost, suf-

1       ficient office space and exhibition areas in the Vis-  
2       itor Center to carry out the purposes of the Histor-  
3       ical Park.

4       (e) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may  
5       provide grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements  
6       with, the State of Maryland, political subdivisions of the  
7       State, nonprofit organizations, colleges and universities,  
8       and private property owners for—

9               (1) the restoration or rehabilitation, public use,  
10       and interpretation of sites and resources relating to  
11       Harriet Tubman;

12              (2) the conduct of research, including archae-  
13       ological research;

14              (3) providing stewardship programs, education,  
15       signage, and other interpretive devices at the sites  
16       and resources for interpretive purposes; and

17              (4)(A) the design and construction of the Vis-  
18       itor Center; and

19              (B) the operation and maintenance of the Vis-  
20       itor Center.

21       (f) INTERPRETATION.—The Secretary may provide  
22       interpretive tours to sites and resources located outside  
23       the boundary of the Historical Park in Caroline, Dor-  
24       chester, and Talbot Counties, Maryland, relating to the  
25       life of Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad.

1 (g) GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after  
3 the date on which funds are made available to carry  
4 out this subsection, the Secretary, in coordination  
5 with the State of Maryland, political subdivisions of  
6 the State, and the United States Fish and Wildlife  
7 Service, shall complete a general management plan  
8 for the Historical Park in accordance with section  
9 12(b) of Public Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C. 1a–7(b)).

10 (2) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall co-  
11 ordinate the preparation and implementation of the  
12 general management plan for the Historical Park  
13 with—

14 (A) the Harriet Tubman National Histor-  
15 ical Park in Auburn, New York;

16 (B) the National Underground Railroad:  
17 Network to Freedom;

18 (C) the Maryland Harriet Tubman Under-  
19 ground Railroad State Park; and

20 (D) the Harriet Tubman Underground  
21 Railroad Byway in Dorchester and Caroline  
22 Counties, Maryland.

23 (3) PRIORITY TREATMENT.—The general man-  
24 agement plan for the Historical Park shall give pri-  
25 ority to the adequate protection of, interpretation of,

1 public appreciation for, archaeological investigation  
2 of, and research on Stewart's Canal, the Jacob  
3 Jackson home site, the Brodess Farm, the Ben Ross  
4 and Anthony Thompson properties on Harrisville  
5 Road, and the James Cook site, all of which are pri-  
6 vately owned and located in the Blackwater National  
7 Wildlife Refuge.

8 (h) BLACKWATER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE.—

9 (1) INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT.—The Secretary  
10 shall ensure that, not later than 1 year after the  
11 date of enactment of this Act, the National Park  
12 Service and the United States Fish and Wildlife  
13 Service enter into an interagency agreement that—

14 (A) promotes and mutually supports the  
15 compatible stewardship and interpretation of  
16 Harriet Tubman resources at the Blackwater  
17 National Wildlife Refuge; and

18 (B) provides for the maximum level of co-  
19 operation between those Federal agencies to  
20 further the purposes of this Act.

21 (2) EFFECT OF ACT.—Nothing in this Act  
22 modifies, alters, or amends the authorities of the  
23 United States Fish and Wildlife Service in the ad-  
24 ministration and management of the Blackwater Na-  
25 tional Wildlife Refuge.

1 **SEC. 6. ADMINISTRATION.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall administer  
3 the Harriet Tubman National Historical Park and the  
4 Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Histor-  
5 ical Park in accordance with this Act and the laws gen-  
6 erally applicable to units of the National Park System in-  
7 cluding—

8 (1) the National Park Service Organic Act (16  
9 U.S.C. 1 et seq.); and

10 (2) the Act of August 21, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461  
11 et seq.).

12 (b) PARK REGULATIONS.—Notwithstanding sub-  
13 section (a), regulations and policies applicable to units of  
14 the National Park System shall apply only to Federal land  
15 administrated by the National Park Service that is located  
16 within the boundary of the Harriet Tubman Underground  
17 Railroad National Historical Park.

18 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-  
20 priated such sums as are necessary to carry out this Act  
21 (other than subsection (b)), including the provision of Na-  
22 tional Park Service personnel and National Park Service  
23 management funds for the Harriet Tubman National His-  
24 torical Park and the Harriet Tubman Underground Rail-  
25 road National Historical Park.

1 (b) GRANTS.—There are authorized to be appro-  
2 priated not more than—

3 (1) \$11,000,000 to provide grants to the  
4 Church for—

5 (A) historic preservation, rehabilitation,  
6 and restoration of resources within the bound-  
7 ary of the Harriet Tubman National Historical  
8 Park; and

9 (B) the costs of design, construction, in-  
10 stallation, and maintenance of exhibits and  
11 other interpretive devices authorized under sec-  
12 tion 4(d)(1)(B);

13 (2) \$11,000,000 for grants to the State of  
14 Maryland for activities authorized under subsections  
15 (d)(1) and (e)(4)(A) of section 5; and

16 (3) \$200,000 for fiscal year 2010 and each fis-  
17 cal year thereafter for competitive grants to histori-  
18 cally Black colleges and universities, Predominately  
19 Black Institutions, and minority serving institutions  
20 for research into the life of Harriet Tubman and the  
21 African-American experience during the years that  
22 coincide with the life of Harriet Tubman.

23 (c) COST-SHARING REQUIREMENT.—

24 (1) CHURCH AND VISITOR CENTER GRANTS.—

25 The Federal share of the cost of activities provided



1 grants under paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (b)  
2 and any maintenance, construction, or utility costs  
3 incurred pursuant to a cooperative agreement en-  
4 tered into under section 4(d)(1)(A) or section 5(e)  
5 shall not be more than 50 percent.

6 (2) HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNI-  
7 VERSITIES.—The Federal share of the cost of activi-  
8 ties provided assistance under subsection (b)(3) shall  
9 be not more than 75 percent.

10 (3) FORM OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-  
11 Federal share required under this subsection may be  
12 in the form of in-kind contributions of goods or serv-  
13 ices fairly valued.

○